

FAQ on Indiana Title I Preschools



Eligibility

What programs are eligible to use Title I A funds to support a preschool program?

A participating Title I school may use part of its Part A funds to operate a preschool program. An LEA may reserve an amount from the LEA's total allocation to operate a Part A preschool program for eligible children in the district as a whole or for a portion of the district.

Which children are automatically eligible to receive Title IA preschool services?

Any child who participated in Head Start, Even Start, the Early Reading First program, or Title I preschool services any time within the previous two years is deemed automatically eligible to participate in Title I services.

Who is eligible to attend a district-operated Title I preschool program?

If a district directly operates a preschool program, the program may serve children living anywhere in the district, although the participants must still be selected from those most at need of services.

Which children are eligible for participation in a Title I-supported preschool program in a school operating a schoolwide program?

A preschool that is part of a Title I school operating a schoolwide program is not required to identify particular children as eligible to participate in the Title I preschool. Rather, all children in the attendance area of that school are eligible for preschool services. [Section 1114(a)(2), ESEA.]

Which children are eligible for participation in a Title I-supported preschool program in a Title I targeted assistance school?

To be eligible to attend a Title I preschool program in a targeted assistance school, preschool-age children-like school-age children-must be failing or most at risk of failing to meet the state's challenging student academic achievement standards as determined by multiple, educationally related, objective criteria established by the LEA and supplemented by the school. With respect to preschool children, this determination must be made on the basis of criteria such as teacher judgment, interviews with parents, and developmentally appropriate measures of child development.

The use of family income to determine eligibility for Title I preschool is allowable, especially for the purposes of prioritizing when there are not sufficient Title I resources to serve all preschool

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age children with other educational needs, but children should not be identified for Title I preschool solely on the basis of family income.

In addition, children who participated in a Head Start, Even Start, Early Reading First, or Title I preschool program at any time during the two preceding years, homeless children, and children in institutions for neglected or delinquent children are automatically eligible for Title I preschool and to continue into Title I school programs.

Are children with disabilities eligible to participate in Title I preschool programs?

Yes. Children with disabilities are eligible to receive Title I services on the same basis as eligible children without disabilities.

Are migrant children eligible to participate in Title I preschool programs?

Yes. Migrant children are eligible to receive Title I services on the same basis as eligible non-migrant children.

Are Title III students eligible to participate in Title I preschool programs?

Yes. Title III children are eligible to receive Title I services on the same basis as eligible non-Title III children.